

Dale Orlando
46 Kernwood Drive
Lynn, MA 01904

Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General
One Ashburton Place,
18th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
Attn: Antitrust Division

August 7, 2014

Dear Attorney General Coakley:

Allowing the acquisition of Hallmark Health by Partners Health Care is a big mistake for the Commonwealth and for the people of Greater Lynn as indicated in both the Policy Health Commission's preliminary report of July 2nd and their subsequent final report submitted to the court regarding this matter.

Partners has no business arbitrarily taking away the community hospital from a Greater Lynn population of 135,000+ and bringing it to Salem to satisfy their own agenda of more money for advanced technological surgeries. Some of us are advocating that the city take the facility by eminent domain and select a management system from among the other award winning community hospital health providers. A move only necessary because you were not looking out for our interests in negotiating this deal and allowed Partners to both increase their monopoly on health care North of Boston and to run up the prices for much of that care. As a citizen and a taxpayer, I am appalled.

The proposed shifting of behavioral health patients from throughout the region into an isolated setting in Lynn is contrary to all findings regarding better patient outcomes through integrated Medical/Behavioral Health care. There are no cost savings here, there is no increase in treatment capacity and the move will result in substantial damage to patients, their families and to our city through greater travel time, housing issues and likely increases in criminal activity in the surrounding single family residential neighborhoods. We have no rental housing nearby, there are two elementary schools, one day care center and over 30% elderly residents. There is no discharge plan by Partners for these patients. As a psychologist I am thoroughly disgusted.

When we last spoke at an event in Salem, you indicated your willingness to address your decisions with the people of Lynn directly. Subsequently, your staff has rebuffed all invitations for you to come here, to see the problem first hand and

to talk with us about what can be done to mitigate this pending disaster. It is not okay to allow the Commonwealth's largest health provider with over \$9 Billion in revenues last year to relocate our most vulnerable populations, many without housing, from their home communities to one of the Commonwealth's poorest cities with a well documented history of drug activity. Partners is removing 200 high paying health care jobs from Union Hospital and trying to pass the buck to the unions in their squabbles over nursing jobs. As a resident of that neighborhood in Lynn I'm incensed by the callousness, theirs and yours, and if I could eliminate their non-profit, tax exempt status it would have been done last fall.

In fact, I believe that since a primary beneficiary of this merger will be The Lawrence General Hospital in Medford where you reside that you should have recused yourself from negotiating this deal altogether. I used to be a fan of yours and now I am simply heartbroken.



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